1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33) 1936 SR9 Carib SR9

(Freely: Do not look into my face that way, for, if you do, I shall never be able to forget you)[1].

As the affair progresses, the participants of course become progressively influenced by the drink, which is not intrinsically very strong, but which when taken in large quantities, steadily, for several hours produces all degrees of drunkenness. Restraints which are ordinarily practised are relaxed. On the one hand, an atmosphere of good fellowship prevails, individuals borrowing goods and taking privileges which would not even be mentioned during soberer hours. On the other hand, suppressed grudges are often brought to the surface and accounts settled with blows, a form of action which is seldom taken by a sober Carib. Men and women normally are extremely modest about exposing their sexual organs, even to members of their own sex, but during a drinking spree they can be seen urinating publicly and making jokes about it. However, I have seen no example of the practise which writers on the Guiana Indians have so frequently mentioned, namely, vomiting in order to increase one's drinking capacity. As the evening wears on the more enterprising men have usually arranged trysts with girls or women. The festivities gradually die a normal death as these couples slip off to their rendezvous, leaving the remainder of the party to drop into drunken sleep.

A spree continues until the supply of drink is exhausted. This is usually two or three days, and during this time the program of activity outlined above is vigorously kept up. When the beverage supply has come to an end the participants in the spree usually get into their hammocks and spend about twenty-four hours sleeping off the effects of the orgy before returning to their own homes.

The several forms of alcoholic stimulant have been described above. Tobacco remains to be mentioned. The tobacco plants grown by the Indians are of medium size, both as to height and leaves. They are planted from seed in the fields, and seedlings are sometimes, though not invariably, replanted after they have attained a height of a few inches. The great curse of the tobacco plants is a ground worm which destroys the roots. It is believed that planting the seed during the dark of the moon is favorable

[1] The author does not have sufficient familiarity with the Carib language to vouch completely for either the transliterations or the translations of these songs, which were obtained through interpreters. They have, however, been checked with three interpreters.

1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33)1936 SR9 Carib SR9

606 the other hand, a man always speaks to his son-in-law through his daughter in similar affairs. Occasional exceptions to this rule occur in cases where the two men have been exceptionally good friends of long standing before the marriage.

A man is even more "ashamed" in the presence of his mother-in-law and, although he may see her, hardly ever speaks to her directly.

A woman's relations to her parents-in-law are also reserved, but her contact with them is rare, due to the practice of matrilocal and independent residence.

We shall describe other kinship usages revolving about the marriage relationship in our analysis of the kinship system.

833 Sexual intercourse normally takes place in the hammock in the so-called European position.

843 A woman calculates the date of parturition by counting the months from the stoppage of menstruation. When she feels the foetus move in her womb she believes that birth will take place a month hence. Calculation of the precise day is seldom attempted.

If a man desires a male child, he searches until he finds a small root of cassava which resembles a penis and testicles. At a moment when his wife has turned away from him he throws this against her back, and turns around casually as if he had done nothing. If the woman picks up the root, she will give birth to a boy. There is also said to be a method of producing a female child, but my informants did not know what it is.

842 The following method of insuring the fertility of a woman is in use. An old woman, at the behest of the husband, mixes the macerated root of a plant called murewa with rubbish and sweepings from the floor of the patient's house. This mixture is burned, and the ashes are administered to the wife in cassiri, without her knowledge.

843 During pregnancy, "after the wife has swelled up," intercourse between the spouses ceases until about a month after birth. During this time a man satisfies himself elsewhere.

Thoughts, behavior, or experiences of a woman during pregnancy are not believed to influence the personality or appearance of the child in any way.

844 At the birth the mother rests on a bed of leaves on the floor of her house. She may be assisted by other women, who exert pres-